

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: :
: :
Østergaard et al. : Attorney Docket No.: 51402-226759
: :
Application No.: 10/565,437 : Art Unit: 3679
: :
Filed: January 20, 2006 : Examiner: J. Hewitt

Title: A SEALING ARRANGEMENT AND A COUPLING DEVICE AND A VALVE
DEVICE PROVIDED WITH SUCH A SEALING ELEMENT

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement issued June 23, 2008, Applicant selects Species I. However, contrary to the statement in the election requirement that Figs. 1-5 correspond to Species I, Applicants submit that Figs. 1-7 correspond to Species I. Applicants submit that claims 1-17 correspond to Species I.

Applicants traverse the election requirement on the basis that unity of election exists among the claims. The pending claims in the present application correspond to the amended claims attached to the International Preliminary Report On Patentability. On page 3 of the International Preliminary Report On Patentability, the PCT Examiner states that unity of invention exists among the claims. Therefore, Applicants submit that unity of invention exists and that the election requirement is improper and should be withdrawn.

If an interview would advance the prosecution of this application, Applicants respectfully urge the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The undersigned authorizes the Commissioner to charge fee insufficiency and credit overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 22-0261.

Dated: July 23, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

Electronic signature: /Eric J. Franklin/
Eric J. Franklin

Registration No.: 37,134
VENABLE LLP
P.O. Box 34385
Washington, DC 20043-9998
(202) 344-4000
(202) 344-8300 (Fax)
Attorney/Agent For Applicant